IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Lara et al.

SERIAL NO.:   09/086,821   GROUP NO.:   2153

FILING DATE: May 29, 1998   EXAMINER: Salad

TITLE: Web Service

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on January 16, 2001, please amend the application as indicated, and consider the remarks that follow.

In the Claims:

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 2-5, 17-19, and 21-24.

Please add the following claims.

26. (New) A method for distributing browser web page requests among two or more web servers, comprising:

    monitoring, by a central manager, the web servers to determine if a predetermined condition exists at one or more of the web servers; and

    if the predetermined condition does exist at one of the web servers, redirecting by that web server at least one browser request from that web server to another one of the web servers such that the browser requests the web page from the another one of the web servers, wherein the redirection is initiated by an agent running on a same host as the web server, the agent in communication with a web server interface and the central manager, wherein the web server